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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. Patent Application of:
Wilhelm BIRKENMAIER)
Serial No.: To Be Assigned)
Filed: Concurrently Herewith)
For: **BEARING DEVICE FOR**)
MOUNTING OF A HIGH-SPEED ROTOR)

Charlotte, North Carolina, July 28, 2006

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Preliminary to the examination of this application, the applicant respectfully requests entry of the following amendments.

Amendments to the Specification begin at page 2.

Amendments to the claims begin at page 10.

Remarks by the applicant begin at page 12.